



Judith F. “J” Davis

Judith F. “J” Davis is in her twelfth term on the Greenbelt City Council. Currently, Davis serves as Mayor Pro Tem. J formerly was Mayor for 16 years, Greenbelt’s longest continuously serving Mayor. Prior to her election to the City Council in 1993, she was appointed to the city’s Advisory Planning Board (APB) for ten years and was elected Chair by its members from 1988 to 1992. Davis represents the Council on the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Governing Board of Directors.

J moved to Greenbelt in 1975 and soon became active in local affairs. A condominium owner in Greenbriar, she was elected to the Greenbriar Phase 1 Board of Directors, serving for 14 years. She was Carnival Chair for the Labor Day Festival Committee for 18 years. In 1995, J was on the Project Design Committee that led to the formation of GIVES, the Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service, of which she is a charter member, and served on its Board as Vice President for 9 years.

Davis has honed her leadership skills and expanded her experience and effectiveness by serving tirelessly in many roles. As Mayor, J was the Council’s representative to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors. In 2005, she was elected Chair of the COG Board for a one-year term. In 2010, she also served as its

corporate President. Davis is a member of COG’s Pension Plan Administrative Committee, its Legislative Committee, and its Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee, which she has served on since its inception. In the past, she served on COG’s Budget/Finance Committee and Ad Hoc Elected Officials’ Green Building Committee. Davis is a member of the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Advocacy Committee for the National League of Cities, having first been appointed in 2005. Due to her focus on environmental issues, J has brought back innovative ideas and best practices to be incorporated by the City. She successfully urged Greenbelt’s registration in the Sustainable Maryland Certified Program and serves on its Executive Committee as a Founding Mayor.

Davis has served as President of the Maryland Municipal League after serving 11 terms on its Board of Directors. In addition, Davis is a past president of the Maryland Mayors Association, the Prince George’s County Municipal Association (PGCMA) and the Prince George’s Elected Municipal Women. Davis served nine years on PGCMA’s Board of Directors advocating Greenbelt’s positions at the county level. In 2002, Davis became a Graduate Fellow of the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance established by the Institute for Government Service. Appointed by former Governor Martin O’Malley, Davis represented the Maryland Municipal League on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding.

In 2011, Davis was presented COG’s highest honor, the Elizabeth and David Scull Metropolitan Public Service Award. For her environmental work, J was given the Greenbelt Green Man Award in 2010. Davis was selected Woman of the Year 2000-2001 by the Business and Professional Women/USA. She is also a recipient of an award for Outstanding Leadership and Service in Politics by the Minority Affairs Committee of Prince George’s County Educators Association.

J retired in 1999 after thirty years as a sixth-grade teacher at Gaywood Elementary School in Seabrook MD. An educator for 35 years, she holds Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from West Chester State University in West Chester PA.

J is an active member of many civic organizations, including Greenbelt Arts Center, Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre, Greenbelt Golden Age Club, and Greenbelt Lions. She is also a member of Greenbelt’s American Legion Auxiliary, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Friends of the National Zoo, and Sierra Club.

In her spare time, J enjoys traveling with her sister, her niece and her significant other, Neil.